

**March 4, 2014**

**Testimony for Energy Committee Hearing on HB 5412 on Shared Clean Energy Sharing**

Dear Energy Committee member,

I write in support of the bill currently before your committee, “An Act Concerning Shared Clean Energy Facilities.” The majority of Connecticut homeowners cannot access affordable clean energy because they do not have a suitable site for renewable energy on their own property.

This act will open the door for all residential energy customers to buy into local shared clean energy facilities and receive credit on their utility bill for their portion of the clean energy produced.

Passage of the act will benefit renters, condo-owners, and homeowners with tree-shaded or otherwise unsuitable homes and enable them to take advantage of the State’s clean energy programs they all contribute into.

The increased demand would also benefit Connecticut’s solar industry, attract new investment from national solar companies, and create thousands of new in-state jobs.

And, everyone in the State would benefit by reducing the need to run expensive and polluting power plants at peak times when solar works the best.

I hope you agree that this seems like a win-win proposition for our people and our environment!

Respectfully submitted by :

Pamela Wheeler,

143 Pinney Hill Rd.

Willington, CT, 06279